

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 7.

Please amend claims 1, 12, 15-19, 30 and 34 to read as follows:

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1. An anode for use in a fuel cell having improved tolerance to voltage reversal, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode and a second catalyst composition for evolving oxygen from water,

wherein said second catalyst composition comprises a metal oxide selected from the group consisting of precious metal oxides, mixtures of precious metal oxides, solid solutions of precious metal oxides, mixtures of precious metal oxides and valve metal oxides, and solid solutions of precious metal oxides and valve metal oxides.

Sub B1
A2

12. An anode for use in a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell having improved tolerance to voltage reversal, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode and a second catalyst composition for evolving oxygen from water, said second catalyst composition comprising a metal oxide, wherein said metal oxide comprises a solid solution of RuO_2 and IrO_2 having iridium present in an atomic ratio of ruthenium to iridium of no greater than 90:10.

Sub B1

15. An anode for use in a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell having improved tolerance to voltage reversal, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode and a second catalyst composition for evolving oxygen from water, said second catalyst composition comprising a metal oxide, and

wherein said metal oxide comprises a solid solution of RuO_2 and TiO_2 .

16. The anode of claim 15, wherein said metal oxide comprises a solid solution of RuO_2 and TiO_2 having titanium present in an atomic ratio of ruthenium to titanium of no greater than 50:50.

17. An anode for use in a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell having improved tolerance to voltage reversal, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode and a second catalyst composition for evolving oxygen from water, said second catalyst composition comprising a metal oxide, wherein said metal oxide comprises a solid solution of RuO_2 and a valve metal oxide, and wherein said solid solution has titanium present in an atomic ratio of ruthenium to titanium of no greater than 70:30.

Sub B1
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18. The anode of claim 17 wherein said solid solution has titanium present in an atomic ratio of ruthenium to titanium of no greater than 90:10.

19. An anode for use in a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell having improved tolerance to voltage reversal, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode and a second catalyst composition for evolving oxygen from water, said second catalyst composition comprising a metal oxide, and

wherein said metal oxide comprises a solid solution of IrO_2 and TiO_2 having titanium present in an atomic ratio of iridium to titanium of no greater than 90:10.

A4
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30. The anode of claim 1, said second catalyst composition comprising a metal oxide, and wherein said second catalyst composition is supported on a titanium oxide.

Sub B1
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34. A method of making a solid polymer electrolyte fuel cell tolerant to voltage reversal, said fuel cell comprising an anode, a cathode, and a solid polymer electrolyte, said anode comprising a first catalyst composition for electrochemically oxidizing a fuel directed to said anode, said method comprising incorporating a second catalyst composition in said anode for evolving oxygen from water,

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wherein said second catalyst composition comprises a metal oxide selected from the group consisting of precious metal oxides, mixtures of precious metal oxides, solid solutions of precious metal oxides, mixtures of precious metal oxides and valve metal oxides, and solid solutions of precious metal oxides and valve metal oxides.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-42 are pending in the present application, claim 7 having been cancelled by this amendment. Independent claims 1 and 34 have been amended in the present submission to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7. Claim 7 has therefore been cancelled.

Objection to Claims 12, 15-19, 23 and 30
Indicated as Being Allowable

Claims 12, 15, 17 and 19, which were indicated as being allowable, have been rewritten in independent form, including the limitation of their base claim and any intervening claim(s). Claims 5, 16, 18 and 23, which were also indicated as being allowable, depend directly from other claims indicated as being allowable, and have therefore not been rewritten. Claim 30 depends from amended claim 1. Applicants submit that the scope of claims 12, 15, 17 and 19, as amended herein, has not been narrowed or otherwise altered from their scope as originally